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Our Home, our Country and our Brother Man.

Poultry as a Source of Food.

With us, the question of food supplies for the people cannot, for a long time to come, assume the importance that it already has in densely populated countries, as in France, Holland and other nations. Yet the interest that has of late years been given to the subject of fish culture, and the force that has been put upon that part of it where it is regarded as an economical means of furnishing food for the people, shows that even with us, the matter is being thought about by those who take into consideration things affecting the present or future welfare of our people—in a material sense. When this matter comes closer home to our people than it does now, they will be led to what other densely populated countries have done—depend largely upon poultry as a national food. This being the case, perhaps a few thoughts about it may not be wholly out of place at present.

The testimony of science and practice upon the assertion that the various products of poultry, properly managed, form the cheapest animal food that can be procured. Indeed, a recent English writer of authority on this subject goes so far as to say that the use of domestic fowls "seems expressly adapted by Providence to supply the wants of the human race." In every one hundred parts of a fresh egg, there are fourteen parts of albumen and ten parts of oil or fat. Eggs seem well adapted for the weekly person, giving him strength and a healthier condition of the blood—while to the person in health they furnish iron and phosphoric compounds which increase the nerve force, and give tone and strength to the system. In what form can animal food, so uniformly reliable, and so healthful and strengthening in its effects, be so cheaply obtained, as in that of hens' eggs? And why cannot those in moderate or poor circumstances who live in villages or in large towns, and who do not, from high price, hardly taste of meat from one week's end to another, manage to keep a few hens, that their daily bill of fare may be often varied, and provided with food so necessary to health and strength? But it is not in the value of eggs alone, but of dressed chickens and fowl, that render poultry so valuable as a means of producing dressed meat of a very choice and delicate quality. In this country we hardly appreciate the importance of this matter, but the fact was shown how it is estimated in France. In 1864 an exhibition of dressed fowls was held in Paris, at which 8400 were offered in prices and two thousand were exhibited. This shows how the subject is considered there as a part of the general economy of the farm. Early chickens or fowls make nice eating, and in a country where corn and backwash are as cheaply grown as with us, can be economically reared and fattened for the town market or for home consumption.

A few figures taken from the last number of Mr. Wright's "Illustrated Book of Poultry," will show the magnitude of the egg trade and its value as a branch of national production. We give these, and regret we have no statistics of the egg or poultry business of our own country to present in comparison. When will this be deemed of sufficient importance to occupy a place in our census blanks? In 1871 the number of eggs imported into Great Britain from France alone, was 522,132,720. The value of which was \$5,327,420. The importation now amounts to about ten millions of eggs weekly, and assuming the population of Great Britain to be thirty millions, seventeen eggs are annually imported for each of the seven million men and child of the population—aside from the large quantities produced at home and imported from Ireland. When it is considered that the French people themselves are great consumers of eggs than any other, so that it is computed that every Parisian consumes about 100 eggs annually, the importance of the business as a branch of national production will at once be seen. The national production will at once be seen. The national production will at once be seen.

The Wheat Crop of America.

We are favored with advance sheets from the Department of Agriculture, showing the condition of the growing crop of wheat the first week in June. It embraces returns from nine hundred and thirty-three States. The returns to date show that the crop comes nearer a failure than any other Western State. The late spring weather was severely injured by freezing, the spring was unfavorable for the crop, and the chills-bug in vast numbers has attacked many localities. But generally throughout the great wheat producing States, California, Minnesota, Kansas, Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska, the crop is reported in good condition. In California alone, the increase over that of last year may be safely put down at from ten to twenty millions of bushels. Throughout the Southern States generally, the average area and condition are reported. The summary of the returns is stated as follows: "Area, 36 per cent of last year's crop; condition, six per cent of last year's crop; the crop was estimated at 230,000,000, and the yield at 114 bushels per acre—a yield 1-6 per cent below the average. The returns therefore indicate, in the first week of June, a prospect of 230,000,000 bushels."

AN OMISSION. The article headed "The Farmer Problem," in the Maine Farmer of June 22d, should have been credited to the New York Tribune.

Status of the State Society.

The State Agricultural Society, after a year's interval, has entered upon the work of another State Fair. The past history of the Society is well known to the farmers of Maine—not only its history from its incorporation in 1855 to the breaking out of the rebellion, which seems to mark the first period, but especially its history since 1868, when the exhibition was resumed after the restoration of peace to our country. But in order to show its present status and the work it has accomplished against many disadvantages in promoting the interests of farming in our State, we need to refer with some minuteness to its recent history, although the subject is quite familiar to most of our readers.

In 1868, without a dollar in its treasury, the Society started out in the work of holding the first State Fair after the termination of the rebellion. This was held in Portland, and was a creditable and successful exhibition—the Society paying all its liabilities and having something left over. In 1869 in connection with the New England Agricultural Society, it held a second fair in Portland, which was the most extensive and magnificent exhibition of its kind ever held in Maine. The expenses of this fair were very large, but the State Society came out of it without diminishing the small fund secured as the net receipts of the exhibition of 1868. In 1870, the Trustees believing it to be for the interest of the Society, and for the good of agriculture throughout the whole State, located the annual exhibition at Augusta.

Here the fair was a success in every particular; attendance, in receipts, and in all the elements of a grand exhibition, but unfortunately an accident of a very serious nature involved the Society in difficulties. There was a question—whether the officers of the Society took good counsel—whether the Society was liable for the damages sustained by persons injured by the breaking down of the special car, but rather than bring the question to a test, the Trustees decided the better course to be to ascertain and adjust to the satisfaction of the parties, every claim for damages thus occasioned. This done, they found themselves unable to pay but 50 per cent of the premiums due to exhibitors. With the forwarding of this amount, a statement of the condition of the Society was sent to each party receiving premiums, together with the statement that the Society was to apply to the Legislature for aid to enable it to pay the remaining 50 per cent of premiums. This the Legislature did, but failed to secure it. In 1871, no State Fair was held. The year was one of the hardest ever known in the agricultural history of our State; crops were light, as it was then, and the Trustees of the Society did not feel warranted in holding an exhibition.

This brings us, briefly, to the beginning of operations for the fair of 1872, and to the present condition of the Society. The Trustees, acting in the same spirit that decided the location of the fair of 1870 in Augusta—that regarding the Society as a State institution, and one whose purpose could best be served and best satisfied the people of the State by holding its fairs at different points—located the fair of 1872 at Bangor, and the Trustees of the State not having had the State Fair for a period of fifteen years, the arrangements for the fair the coming fall were so far completed, that with good weather, we safely predict the best State Fair in every department and in all its attractions, that has ever been held in Maine. And the Trustees are desirous that the exact status of the Society should be known, they solicit in turn the working force of the Board is composed of the same gentlemen who so successfully carried out the programme of the fairs of 1868, 1869 and 1870; so that they have the advantage of familiarity with their duties, and of having discharged them over and over to the acceptance of the public.

While the Trustees desire the leniency of every person to whom a premium was awarded at the last State Fair, assuring them that the fair of 1872 will be held in Bangor, and that the fair of 1873 will be held in Bangor, the fair of 1874 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1875 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1876 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1877 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1878 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1879 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1880 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1881 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1882 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1883 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1884 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1885 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1886 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1887 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1888 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1889 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1890 will be held in Bangor, and the fair of 1891 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BUTCHER'S LIGHTNING FLY-KILLER
wreaps them from all the flies home speedily.—Try
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AMOS PALMER, late of Pittston,
in the County of Kennebec, deceased, intestate, and
his estate, undertake that by giving bond as the law
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are requested to make immediate payment on or
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 I have just received a supply of **COLLIER** and
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